



## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

### COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** July 12, 2005

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT:** Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara approving the filing of an application for grant funds from the California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board for Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant Program pursuant to the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 for the Las Positas Storm Water Detention and Water Quality Improvement Project.

#### DISCUSSION:

Proposition 50, the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, was passed by California voters in November 2002. It amended the California Water Code (CWC) to add, among other articles, Section 79560 *et seq.* authorizing the Legislature to appropriate \$500 million for Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) projects. The intent of the IRWM Grant Program is to encourage integrated regional strategies for management of water resources and to provide funding, through competitive grants, for projects that protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security. The IRWM Grant Program is administered jointly by the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board.

In order to be eligible to apply and receive grant funding for water resources and water quality projects under the IRWM Grant Program, local agencies must develop and implement Integrated Regional Water Management Plans. On May 9, 2005, as the lead agency for participating agencies within the county, including the City of Santa Barbara, the County of Santa Barbara applied for a grant to prepare a comprehensive Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. As part of the grant application process, the City of Santa Barbara worked closely with the County and other public agencies to develop a preliminary plan that identified a series of projects that comprise a regional strategy for water resource and water quality protection.

---

REVIEWED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney

Agenda Item No. _____
-----------------------

Although the Santa Barbara Integrated Regional Water Management Plan is not yet complete, because a preliminary plan has been developed, local agencies within Santa Barbara County are eligible to apply for implementation grants. As the lead agency, the County of Santa Barbara will submit a regional application. However, each participating agency must seek authorization to submit specific project grant applications.

The Creeks Division recommends that Council authorize the Acting Parks and Recreation Director to submit an application for \$950,000 to construct the Las Positas Storm Water Detention and Water Quality Improvement Project. This project fits well with the grant proposal criteria. If awarded, the project will be ready for construction when grant funds become available in July 2006.

The purpose of the Las Positas Storm Water Detention and Water Quality Improvement Project is to detain and treat polluted storm water and incidental urban runoff from a portion of Las Positas Road and the Samarkand and San Jose Lane neighborhoods, as well as the Santa Barbara Golf Club, in order to improve water quality downstream in Las Positas Creek and the Arroyo Burro Estuary. The detention systems will also detain storm water to reduce downstream flow rates into Las Positas Creek, and thereby increase the feasibility for additional downstream water quality treatment projects. The Creeks Division has reviewed this project with both the Creeks Advisory Committee and the Park and Recreation Commission on a number of occasions over the last three years.

On May 10, 2005, the City Council authorized the Parks and Recreation Department to contract with WRC Consulting Services to prepare detailed conceptual design plans for the project. It is anticipated that project design and permitting will be complete in Fiscal Year 2006. If grant funds are received under the IRWM Grant Program, construction could begin in Fiscal Year 2007.

#### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The Creeks Division recommends that the City apply for \$950,000 in IRWM grant funds. In addition to the grant funds, it is estimated that \$150,000 of Measure B funds will be needed to complete project design and permitting. Since the IRWM grant program requires minimum matching funds of 10 percent, the City's match of \$150,000 exceeds the requirement but will ensure that the project design is complete by the time the grant funds become available in July 2006. Providing a greater match may also make the proposal more competitive. Matching funds are appropriated in the Creeks Division Fiscal Year 2006 Capital Program. Overall, it is estimated that the total project cost for design, permitting, and construction could be \$1,100,000.

**PREPARED BY:** Jill E. Zachary, Creeks Restoration/Clean Water Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** Nancy L. Rapp, Acting Parks and Recreation Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office